may set an example for others. Even from a medical point of view, cow flesh is harmful. Early action is necessary as the subject is being repeatedly brought forward in the Assembly from a long time.

Reply of Government.—Government is ascertaining the attitude of all communities and the matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 192.

Batta to witnesses in civil courts.

Messrs. H. Krishna Sastri, Krishnarajpete Taluk; Linge Gowda, Mysore Taluk; B. Narasinga Rao, Seringapatam Taluk; Chandagal Appajaiya, Yedatore Taluk; N. Siddalinga Devaru, Seringapatam Taluk; M. C. Linge Gowda, Mandya Taluk C. Narasimhaya, Heggaddevankote Taluk; A. Ananthiah, Shimoga Taluk; K. Suryanaryan Rao, Tumkur District Board and Javali Hutchappa, Tyamagondlu Municipality.

Summary of Discussion—Rates are recently enhanced. The *batta* for a witness was Rs. 1-8-0 formerly, but now it is Rs. 7. Perhaps the reasons for the change may be sound. Preparation of witness list has become a laborious task now. Even in suits for small sums costs exceed the principal. The *batta* is usually pocketted as the party has to pay all expenses of witnesses if he wants them to depose in his favour.

The Chief Judge explained that the change was due to constant representation in this Assembly. There was no distinction formerly between travelling allowance and subsistence allowance. There were three classes of rates and the lowest rate was paid, if there was a public conveyance. The point was whether mileage rates given otherwise were hard. If within 5 miles no mileage was given, there could possibly be no objection to subsistence allowance.

It was then urged that road mileage was a hardship. The old method was good and cheaper and if a party complained court usually ordered payment. Details in the witness list might be dispensed with. The present rates made litigation almost impossible. It was hard for pleaders to find distances, etc., of the villages. Formerly courts accepted whatever was paid and then if witness complained court awarded fresh *batta*.

The Chief Judge said that without details it was not possible to administer the money paid and that the matter would be enquired into.

Reply of Government.—The matter will be enquired into and if there is any hardship it will be mitigated.

SUBJECT No. 193.

Interest at contract rates from date of suit to the date of decree.

Mr. T. Guruchannabasaviah, Tumkur Municipality.

Summary of Discussion.—In practice, it is only 6 per cent interest that is given. The contract rate is never given. This has led to false and frivolous defences to delay the creditor.

The Chief Judge said that a reasonable rate was always given. In the opinion of the creditor it might not be reasonable. Interest of both parties must be guarded.

Some members urged that after Usurious Loans Regulations no rate could be fixed. Courts did not exercise discretion.

Reply of Government.—Some test cases may be brought forward when the matter will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 194.

Lunatic Asylum.

Mr. R. Gopalaswami Iyer, Bangalore City Municipality.

Mr. R. Gopalaswami Iyer.—There are only two points to be spoken in connection with the subject. The first is that the present building is not suitable for the following reasons. All kinds of patients are huddled together in one and the same room irrespective of the nature of the disease. There are no special observation wards for new comers. Patients with minor complaints who could have been discharged from hospital earlier if they had been accommodated in a separate room have to remain for a longer time in the hospital as they are associated with patients suffering from the same disease in a more

chronic and acute form. No differentiation is made between chronic patients and other patients and this leads to bad results. Government should therefore sell the present site of the building and if this is done, they would be able to realise the same price as they were able to get in the case of sites of the Mysore Bank. This arrangement would not involve any loss to the Government and would enable them to finance the construction of a new building. The construction of a new building should be on the model of hospitals built in other parts of India.

My second request is about the change of the name of the hospital. This question should engage the attention of the Government at once and there should be no delay. There are many patients suffering from mental disorder but who do not seek admission into this hospital. Their guardians do not like to send their patients to this hospital, the main reason being that the mere name "Lunatic Asylum" creates a bad and wrong impression in their minds and it is therefore requested that Government should change the name of the hospital into "Mental Diseases Hospital". This would remove bad notions entertained by the lay public. Recently, in Madras, Government have changed the name of the hospital and this does not involve any expenditure to the Government. They should therefore do this first and without any delay.

Dewan.—Let us first have a new building and then we may think of the name. The question of a new building involves heavy expenditure. The matter is under consideration.

SUBJECT NO. 195.

Abolition of fees in Collegiate High Schools.

Messrs. K. Suryanarayana Rao, Tumkur District Board; Jawali Hutchappa, Tyamagondlu Municipality, D.S. Hanumantha Rao, Devanhalli Taluk; Bindumadhavachar, Kankanhalli Municipality; Narasimhaya, Sira Taluk; and B. Ananthalakshminaranappa, Tumkur Taluk.

Summary of Representation.—Fees may be abolished in Collegiate High Schools, and in all classes up to that standard. At least, students from places where no such schools exist may be made free.

Note.—Discussed with General Subject No. 103.

SUBJECT NO. 196.

Court fees on suits by Co-operative Societies.

Mr. Thontarya, Devanhalli Taluk.

Mr. Thontarya.—Many members have taken loans from Co-operative Societies to avoid the payment of the registration, court and stamp fees, etc. Government have now ordered the levy of full fees on suits by Co-operative Societies. This policy is against the best interests of the Co-operative movement. In the case of suits by Co-operative Societies, which are not contested and if the party agrees to the liability, Government should frame rules for the refund of half the institution fee as in the case of Civil Courts. Unless this system is adopted, the object of the Co-operative movement will not have been fulfilled. It is not right and fair to the movement that the party should be asked to bear the fee in such cases.